

## CLAIMS

1. A method for intelligent communication management within a communication device comprising the steps of:
- initiating a first communication connection to a first communication means;
- 5 determining whether the first communication connection is established;
- communicating with the first communication means when the first communication connection is established;
- detecting that the first communication connection is disconnected;
- comparing the first communication means with one or more communication
- 10 means stored within a memory;
- identifying a contact associated with the first communication means;
- identifying a second communication means associated with the contact; and
- initiating a second communication connection to the second communication means.
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2. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
- determining that the first communication connection is not established prior to the comparing step.
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3. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
- providing a communication preference identifying one or more communication means for sequentially initiating communication with the contact, wherein the second communication means is identified by the communication preference.

4. A method as recited in claim 3 further comprising the step of:  
initiating a third communication connection to a third communication means  
when the second communication connection is not established, wherein the third  
communication means is identified by the communication preference.

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5. A method as recited in claim 3 wherein the communication preference  
comprises a communication preference chosen from a group consisting of a fixed  
communication order, a pattern communication order, a time based communication  
order, and a calendar based communication order.

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6. A method as recited in claim 3 further comprising the steps of:  
retrieving a historical communication pattern for the contact;  
setting the communication preference for the contact using the historical  
communication pattern.

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7. A method as recited in claim 3 further comprising the steps of:  
storing one or more communication preference orders each associated with a  
timeframe;  
determining a current time;  
20 matching the current time with one of the timeframes; and  
setting the communication preference to the communication preference order  
associated with the matched timeframe.

8. A method as recited in claim 3 further comprising the steps of:  
storing one or more calendar events each associated with a time frame,  
wherein each calendar event has an associated communication preference order;  
determining a current time;
- 5 matching the current time with one of the timeframes; and  
setting the communication preference to the communication preference order  
of the calendar event associated with the matched timeframe.
9. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
- 10 storing one or more communication means for the contact;  
displaying the stored one or more communication means; and  
selecting the second communication means from the displayed one or more  
communication means prior to the initiating the second communication step.
- 15 10. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
displaying the second communication means; and  
selecting the second communication means prior to the initiating the second  
communication connection step.

11. A communication device having intelligent communication management, the communication device comprising:
- a transceiver for communicating with a first communication means using a first communication connection;
  - 5 a processor coupled to the transceiver for processing signals received from the transceiver and sending commands to the transceiver for communicating with one or more communication means including the first communication means and a second communication means;
  - a memory coupled to the processor for storing one or more contacts each
  - 10 having one or more associated communication means; and
  - a communications manager application coupled to the processor and to the memory, wherein the communications manager application is adapted to:
    - detect that the first communication connection is disconnected;
    - compare the first communication means with one or more
    - 15 communication means stored within the memory;
    - identify a contact associated with the first communication means;
    - identify a second communication means associated with the contact;
    - and
    - cause the processor to initiate a second communication connection to
    - 20 the second communication means.

12. A communication device having intelligent communication management as recited in claim 11 wherein the memory further stores one or more communication preferences identifying the sequential order of the communication means for initiating
- 5 communication with the contact, wherein the second communication means is identified by the communication preference.